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Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

(29)

PAGE 01 KINGST 03906 311434Z 8372

ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-15 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /068 W

R 291326Z MAY 80
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3002
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS KINGSTON 3906

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PINT, JM
SUBJECT: JAMAICAN VOTER ENUMERATION TO START

REF: KINGSTON 3603

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM THE OPPOSITION IN PARLIAMENT, THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE, SEYMOUR MULLINGS, WHO IS THE GOVERNMENT SOPKESMAN ON ELECTORAL MATTERS, ANNOUNCED THAT THE ENUMERATION OF VOTERS FOR THE UPCOMING GENERAL ELECTION WILL START ON JUNE 7. MULLINGS STATED THAT PARLIAMENT WILL SIT ON JUNE 3 TO MAKE THE NECESSARY REVISIONS TO THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE'S ACT IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH AN ELECTOAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EAC) DECISION TO BEGIN ENUMERATION ON JUNE 7. THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ALSO EXPLAINED THAT THE EAC HAD DECIDED TO USE AN AVERAGE OF 100 ENUMERATORS FOR EACH OF THE 60 CONSTITUENCIES SO THAT NO ENUMERATOR WOULD HAVE MORE THAN 200 ELECTORS TO REGISTER. MULLINGS SAID THAT THE EAC HAD SET A THREE WEEK PERIOD IN WHICH TO COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION OF THE VOTERS.

2. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, FLORIZEL GLASSPOLE, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF JAMAICA, HAS SAID THAT THE EARLIER JAMAICA'S GENERAL ELECTION CAN BE HELD THE BETTER FOR THE COUNTRY. GLASS POLE CLAIMED THE COUNTRY WAS "VIRTUALLY AT A STANDSTILL AND THAT ELECTIONS COULD HELP TO GET THE COUNTRY MOVING AGAIN".

3. WE HAVE CONFIRMED FROM THE AC CHAIRMAN PROFESSOR MILLS, THAT ENUMERATION WILL START ON JUNE 7. ACCORDING TO OUR CALCULATIONS, THIS WOULD ALLOW AN ELECTION AROUND THE LAST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER, I.E. IF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR TECHINICAL ASSISTTANCE ARE COMPLETED ON TIME (SEPTEL).
LAWRENCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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